

He has not prepared his people for peace. He has not explained the need for compromise. In fact, maps in school books do not even show the State of Israel.

On the White House lawn, President Clinton urged both sides to take a chance for peace. Israel was willing to do just that. Israel traded land in the hope for peace. Israel promised even more land, and a Palestinian state.

What did the Palestinians do? They did not create a government to serve the best interests of their people. Yasser Arafat created a gulag on Israel's back doorstep—one riddled by corruption and bent on crushing dissent. The Palestinian leader built an infrastructure for terror and then incited his people telling them that Palestine would run from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea.

When the parties met at Camp David, Israel did what it had never done before. It put the issue of Jerusalem on the table. But the most generous offer Israel could possibly make, was not only rejected, it was brutalized by violence. That violence has intensified for 18 months, mutating into waves of suicidal terror.

In the minds of most Israelis, this cruel response has undermined Yasser Arafat as a genuine partner in search of peace, for Israel now has to question whether land for peace is actually an equation for more violence.

Israel has an obligation to its citizens to respond. When al Qaeda attacked America, we sent our military across the globe to seek out the terrorists in training camp by camp, cave by cave. Israel has terrorist's cells just a couple miles from its largest cities. It had no choice but to take them out—root and branch.

America is conducting her own war on global terrorism in the wake of attacks on our country and to address the threat of Saddam Hussein acquiring weapons of mass destruction. But the United States must at the same time devote its full resources to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We must do so in a way, however, that does not undermine the core principle of our war against terrorism. There must be zero tolerance for terrorism. Such deeds cannot have, or be perceived to have, any political benefit.

Those who seek a political solution to conflict must first rebuild trust by rejecting terror. Unfortunately, both the Arab League and Islamic Conference have failed to do so. Nonetheless, Secretary Powell's mission takes place against the backdrop of a new Arab initiative.

This initiative has many flaws, but it is significant. Arab governments have now demonstrated a desire to play a constructive role in resolving the conflict. Since the Palestinian leadership has been totally discredited as peace partners, the path to peace goes through Amman, Cairo, and Riyadh.

If these governments are serious peace-seekers, other steps must follow.

They must denounce terror against Israel with the same strength and passion as they denounce actions taken against Palestinians. They must halt their financial backing for terrorist groups dedicated to the destruction of Israel. They must put an end to the anti-semitic, anti-Israel, and anti-American rhetoric in their state sponsored media. Finally, they must convince Yasser Arafat, and more importantly the Palestinian people, to abandon their self-destructive behavior.

Had the Passover ceremony in Netanya not been violated by a murderous bomber, those present, together with Jews around the world, would have ended the ceremony by saying: "next year in Jerusalem."

The Jerusalem to which they aspire, however, is not the city we see today—a city stricken with fear; a city of shattered windows and shattered lives where calls to worship have been replaced by sirens and ambulances.

No, the Jerusalem to which they aspire, is a Jerusalem of tolerance, of faith, and of peace.

While that vision seems remote at the moment, we are reminded of the words of Louis Pasteur, who said:

Never let yourselves be discouraged by the sadness of certain hours which pass over nations.

For those who earnestly seek peace, even dark days can be the harbingers of brighter tomorrows.

Our prayers today are for a brighter tomorrow for all in the Mideast, for all people of goodwill.

#### NEVADA VETO OF YUCCA MOUNTAIN SITE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I advise my colleagues that yesterday another significant step was taken in the process to address relief for nuclear energy by the approval of the Yucca Mountain process—and I emphasize process because it is a step-by-step effort.

The Governor of Nevada came to Washington to deliver his veto over the President's recommendation to site this Nation's high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada.

Further, Chairman BINGAMAN, chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, today took yet another step in introducing a resolution, S.J. Res. 34, to override the Nevada veto. Senator BINGAMAN's action sets in motion the congressional fast-track procedure in both the House and Senate to approve this resolution, which is done by a simple majority. We finally may approve a safe, remote, central facility for our Nation's nuclear waste. Without this repository, our nuclear plants would have to shut down, and I do not think we can address that risk, recognizing nearly 20 percent of our Nation's energy is generated by nuclear power.

Without Yucca Mountain, the cold-war legacy sites throughout the U.S. will not get cleaned up because we will

have no place to put the waste. The Federal Government has an obligation for the spent fuel and the DOE waste, and to meet this obligation we must open that repository, and we must do it soon.

To date, we have spent over 20 years and over \$4 billion to investigate and characterize the site. The science tells us this is the place.

I join Senator BINGAMAN in urging my colleagues to vote for this resolution when it comes before the Senate.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 90th Anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. In March, this vital organization celebrated an important milestone in its efforts to encourage girls and young women from communities across our nation to enjoy scouting activities that nurture their mental, physical, and spiritual well-being. Congratulations to the 3.8 million members throughout the United States.

I am pleased to tell you that more than 9,000 girls across the State of South Dakota actively participate in Girl Scouts. In particular, I want to commend the Girl Scouts of Nyoda Council for their outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service and personal development in our state. For over 35 years, this chapter has offered a spiritually motivated, values-based program that encourages every girl to reach her highest potential. The Girl Scouts of Nyoda Council adhere to the vision statement of the Girl Scout movement: "to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service, that they may become happy and resourceful citizens."

On April 13, the Nyoda Council will hold their Girl Scout Gold Award ceremony in honor of those who have achieved the highest honor a Senior Girl Scout can attain. They deserve recognition for their outstanding work, perseverance, leadership, and community involvement. I applaud their "can-do" spirit, determination, and dedication to the betterment of their community.

Congratulations to the Girl Scouts of Nyoda Council on this very special occasion. May they enjoy this celebration of their efforts, and keep up the great work.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, I rise today to speak on behalf of the Girl Scouts. In honor of their 90th anniversary, I would like to congratulate this extraordinary group for their many years of excellence and service to this Nation. This organization has provided great opportunities for many girls and young women, helping them to develop to their full potential and to become good citizens and great leaders. The Girl Scout Law states that each girl will strive to possess honesty,